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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/670,004	09/25/2003	Ķazuhiro Aikawa	Q77153	. 6236
23373	7590 07/28/2006		EXAMINER	
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800			KISHORE, GOLLAMUDI S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGTON, DC 20037			1615	-
			DATE MAILED: 07/28/2006	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 1615

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

- 2. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for a specific benzimidazole derivative (compound 25 in example 2), does not reasonably provide enablement for active ingredient (claim 1) or benzimidazole derivative (claim 2). The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims. The terms, 'active ingredient' and 'benzimidazole derivative' encompass multitudes of compounds and instant specification does not provide adequate support for the broadly recited terms. In Example 2 of the specification, applicant uses a specific compound without even specifying its chemical name and referring to it as only compound 25. Broad claims must have broad basis of support in the specification; in the absence of such support, claims must be limited to the specific compound used in the example.
- 3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:
 The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
- 4. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

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It is unclear as to what applicant intends to convey by 'suppressing action on foaming of macrophages'. Also unclear as to what benzimidazole derivative applicant is referring to. A careful review of the specification indicates that no chemical names or structures are recited for the active agents.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- 6. Claims 1 and 3-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Male-Brune (5,660,855).

Male-Brune discloses liposome formulations containing an active agent for the treatment of arteriosclerosis (abstract, col. 4, line 3 et seq., and Examples).

7. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by GB 2 184 013 of record.

GB discloses liposomes containing a benzimidazole derivative (abstract, Example and claims).

8. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by EP 0 583 665 of record.

EP discloses liposomes containing a benzimidazole derivative (abstract and page 33).

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US 6,645,522 (col. 2, lines 50-52), US 6,348,214 (COL. 6, LINES 1-5) and (WO 97/25560 (page 7, lines 13-23) which show that the incubation of liposomes with the active agent results in the association of the active agent with the liposomal membrane are cited as interest.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gollamudi S. Kishore, Ph.D whose telephone number is (571) 272-0598. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 AM- 4 PM, alternate Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Woodward Michael can be reached on (571) 272-8373. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Gollamudi S Kishore, Ph.D Primary Examiner
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GSK